A CLOSER LOOK: HAMPI

- Hampi is located in the Krishna –Tungabhadra basin, which formed the nucleus of the Vijayanagara Empire, founded in 1336.
- The magnificent ruins at Hampi reveal a well-fortified city.
- No mortar or cementing agent was used in the construction of the enclosure walls of Hampi.
- The architecture of Hampi was distinctive. The buildings in the royal complex had splendid arches, domes and pillared halls with niches for holding sculptures.
- They also had well-planned orchards and pleasure gardens.
- Moors (a name used for Muslim merchants), Chettis and the agents of European traders such as the Portuguese traders were commonly seen in the markets.
A CLOSER LOOK : HAMPI

- Temples were the hub of cultural activities.
- Devadasis (temple dancers) performed before the deity, royalty and masses in the pillared halls in the Virupaksha [a form of Shiva] temple.
- The Mahanavami festival [Navaratri] was one of the most important festivals celebrated at Hampi.
- Hampi fell into ruin following the defeat of Vijayanagara in 1565 by Deccani Sultans - the rulers of Golconda, Bijapur, Ahmadnagar, Berar and Bidar.
Hampi

- Interlocking technique
- Stone chariot, Vitthala temple
- Lotus temple Hampi
- Vijaynagara Architecture
A Gateway to the West: Surat

- Surat in Gujarat was the emporium of western trade during the Mughal period along with Cambay [Khambat].

- Surat was gateway for trade with west Asia via the Gulf of Ormuz. Surat has also been called the gate to Mecca because many pilgrim ships set sail from here.

- The city was cosmopolitan and people of all castes and creeds lived there. The Portuguese, Dutch and English had their factories and warehouses at Surat in the seventeenth century.

- English chronicler Ovington who wrote an account of the port in 1689, on average a hundred ships of the different countries could be found anchored at the port at any given time.
The textiles of Surat were famous for their gold-lace borders [Zari] and had a market in West Asia, Africa and Europe.

There were also several retail and wholesale shops selling cotton textiles at Surat.

The state build many rest-houses to take care of the needs of the people from all over the world who came to the city.

There were magnificent buildings and innumerable pleasure parks. The Katahiawad mahajans [money changers] had huge banking houses at Surat.
THE SURAT HUNDIS

- The Surat hundis were honoured in far-off markets of Cairo in Egypt, Basra in Iraq and Antwerp in Belgium.

Hundi - is a note recording a deposit made by a person. The amount deposited can be claimed in another place by presenting the record of the deposit.
A GATEWAY TO THE WEST: SURAT

- Surat began to decline towards the end of the seventeenth century. This was because of many factors:
  - 1) The loss of markets and productivity because of the decline of the Mughal Empire.
  - 2) Control of the sea routes by the Portuguese.
  - 3) Competition from Bombay [present-day Mumbai] where the English East India Company shifted its headquarters in 1668.